

# WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN COUNTIES

## AUGUST 2003



### Janesville/Beloit Metro Up, State Rate Unchanged, National Rate Declined

#### July Local Labor Scene

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the **Janesville/Beloit Metropolitan Area** increased 0.3 percentage points in July, resting at 6.7 percent. The 6.7 percent figure is 0.2 percentage points lower than the 6.9 percent rate recorded in July 2002 for the Metro area. The statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was also unchanged in July, at 5.6 percent, but was up 0.2 percentage points from the 5.4 percent recorded statewide in July 2002.

Three of six Southwest Counties experienced declining unadjusted unemployment rates in July, joining the 62 of Wisconsin's 72 counties that had lower unadjusted unemployment rates in July than in June

The seemingly large increase in both the seasonal and unad-

justed unemployment rate in Rock County is a short term occurrence as not a reflection of a changing long term trend. Several large manufacturing employers close for several weeks in July to retool and clean their facilities. The ripple effect of these closings are felt throughout Rock County each July.

ber period, as many Wisconsin manufacturers report seasonal increases in production, and the agricultural and tourism industries enjoy increasing employment as well.

#### National Notes

Nationally, manufacturers saw demand for big-ticket products rise for the second straight month in July, an encouraging sign that the manufacturing sector and the national economy is turning around. The US Commerce Department recently reported that new orders for durable goods went up by a solid one percent in July, on top of a bigger, 2.6 percent gain in June. The back-to-back gains marked a considerable improvement over the previous 2 months, when new orders fell by 1.4 percent in April and were flat in May.

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)			
	Janesville/Beloit MSA	Wisconsin (000s)	United States (000s)
<b>Current month: July 2003</b>			
Civilian Labor Force	80,700	3,099.2	146,540
Employment	75,300	2,925.0	137,478
Unemployment	5,400	174.3	9,062
Unemployment rate	6.7%	5.6%	6.2%
<b>Change from one month ago</b>			
Civilian Labor Force	1,300	-1.9	(556)
Employment	1,000	-3.1	(260)
Unemployment	400	1.3	(296)
Unemployment rate	0.3%	0.0%	-0.2%
<b>Change from one year ago</b>			
Civilian Labor Force	2,000	75.8	1,754
Employment	2,100	64.8	1,135
Unemployment	0	11.1	619
Unemployment rate	-0.2%	0.2%	0.4%

*Note: All estimates are preliminary and based on place of residence.*

The Employment Cost Index for total compensation for civilian workers increased 0.9 percent from March to June 2003, following a 1.3 percent gain from December 2002 to March 2003, seasonally adjusted, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Benefit costs increased 1.4

#### Statewide Notes

July unadjusted unemployment for Wisconsin was 5.5 percent, down slightly from 5.7 percent in June. The national unadjusted rate for July was 6.3 percent, down slightly from 6.5 percent in June.

Manufacturing continues to struggle throughout the state, particularly in the durable goods sectors in the southern part of the state and the paper industry in the northeastern and the north central part of the state. Wisconsin typically sees lower unemployment rates in the July through Novem-

percent and continued to outpace the 0.6 percent gain in wages and salaries for civilian workers in June.

The decade-long exit from California to other states accelerated last year for the first time since 1994, as Californians fled smog, traffic, a rising cost of living and an imploding job market. Californians who left for other states exceeded new arrivals by 108,500 in 2002, almost triple the previous year's 39,500 net departures, according to the economic commentary from Economy.com. The jump in out-migration was California's biggest in at least a decade.

## Southwestern Wisconsin Workforce Development Area

July 2003	Grant	Green	Iowa	Lafayette	Richland	Rock	Region	Non MSA's *	Wisconsin
<b>Civilian Labor Force**</b>	24,921	17,288	14,229	7,472	8,572	83,771	156,253	72,482	3,167,650
Employed	23,638	16,130	13,670	7,048	8,175	76,384	145,045	68,661	2,992,256
Unemployed	1,283	1,158	559	424	397	7,387	11,208	3,821	175,394
Unemployment rate(%)	5.1	6.7	3.9	5.7	4.6	8.8	7.2	5.3	5.5
<b>Total Nonfarm (NFWS) ***</b>	18,700	13,400	11,100	3,670	5,900	68,500	121,200	52,700	2,800,500
Total Private	14,400	11,600	9,800	2,600	4,900	60,000	103,100	43,100	2,421,000
Goods Producing	3,700	3,500	1,200	680	1,800	19,300	30,300	11,000	650,500
Service Producing	14,900	9,900	9,900	2,990	4,100	49,200	91,000	41,800	2,150,000
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	700	800	600	160	200	3,200	5,700	2,500	131,600
Manufacturing	3,000	2,700	600	520	1,600	16,100	24,600	8,500	518,900
Trade	2,800	2,600	5,500	680	1,100	13,000	25,700	12,700	441,100
Transportation & Utilities	500	300	300	180	100	2,500	3,900	1,400	322,000
Financial Activities	1,100	400	200	190	300	2,000	4,200	2,200	159,100
Education and Health Services	2,300	2,200	900	320	600	8,100	14,400	6,300	362,100
Leisure & Hospitality	1,800	1,500	1,200	290	500	6,300	11,600	5,300	262,700
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	2,100	1,100	400	270	400	8,800	13,000	4,200	441,900
Total Government	4,300	1,830	1,330	1,070	1,070	8,500	18,100	9,600	379,500
Federal	160	90	100	70	60	300	800	500	28,500
State	1,540	40	110	40	150	400	2,300	1,900	91,700
Local	2,600	1,690	1,130	960	860	7,800	15,000	7,200	259,300
<b>Change from one month ago</b>	<b>June 2003</b>								
<b>Civilian Labor Force**</b>	-550	-200	250	-60	20	2,500	1,950	-500	2,000
Employed	-430	-200	190	-10	30	600	160	-400	8,500
Unemployed	-130	0	60	-60	-10	1,900	1,790	-100	-6,500
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.4	0.1	0.3	-0.7	-0.2	2.1	1.1	-0.1	-0.2
<b>Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***</b>	-660	-390	-10	-60	-70	-400	-1,600	-1,200	-30,700
<b>Percent change NFWS last month</b>	-3.4%	-2.8%	-0.1%	-1.7%	-1.2%	-0.6%	-1.3%	-2.2%	-1.1%
Total Private	0	-100	200	-10	0	0	100	100	8,400
Goods Producing	0	-100	0	10	0	400	300	-100	1,700
Service Producing	-700	-200	0	-70	-100	-800	-1,900	-1,100	-32,400
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	20	30	10	0	10	100	200	100	1,800
Manufacturing	-10	-170	0	10	20	300	200	-100	-100
Trade	20	30	210	-10	-10	100	300	200	1,500
Transportation & Utilities	-40	-10	-20	-10	-20	-200	-300	-100	1,100
Financial Activities	-10	0	0	0	-10	0	0	0	0
Education and Health Services	10	20	-20	0	-10	-400	-400	0	-700
Leisure & Hospitality	10	-20	20	10	-20	200	200	0	5,700
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	0	0	10	-10	10	-100	-100	0	3,200
Total Government	-660	-260	-230	-60	-60	-400	-1,700	-1,300	-39,100
Federal	-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-200
State	-50	0	0	0	0	0	-100	-100	-4,200
Local	-600	-250	-240	-60	-60	-400	-1,600	-1,200	-34,700
<b>Change from one year ago</b>	<b>July 2002</b>								
<b>Civilian Labor Force*</b>	770	-620	360	400	140	2,000	3,000	1,100	76,000
Employed	630	-670	-200	410	110	2,100	2,900	900	65,100
Unemployed	140	50	-30	-10	30	-100	100	200	10,900
Unemployment rate(%)	0.4	0.5	-0.4	-0.5	0.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.2	0.2
<b>Total Nonfarm (NFWS)***</b>	330	-750	200	250	30	800	800	0	4,800
<b>Percent change NFWS last year</b>	1.8%	-5.3%	1.8%	7.3%	0.5%	1.2%	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%
Total Private	500	-800	200	120	100	1,000	1,100	100	8,400
Goods Producing	0	-200	-100	10	0	800	500	-300	-22,900
Service Producing	300	-600	300	240	100	0	300	300	27,700
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-20	80	-20	10	0	0	100	100	-8,500
Manufacturing	40	-280	-50	0	-50	800	500	-300	-14,400
Trade	0	-400	160	30	0	700	500	-200	6,100
Transportation & Utilities	20	20	0	0	10	-300	-300	0	2,700
Financial Activities	110	10	10	0	30	0	100	100	4,000
Education and Health Services	60	20	20	50	30	-100	100	200	4,900
Leisure & Hospitality	200	210	110	50	20	-100	500	600	3,000
Info., Prof.& Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	50	-410	-30	-10	30	0	-400	-400	11,800
Total Government	-130	10	-20	130	-30	-200	-200	0	-3,600
Federal	-10	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	-1,000
State	-20	-10	10	0	0	0	0	0	600
Local	-110	20	-30	120	-30	-200	-200	0	-3,100

\* Five counties, excluding Rock County \*\* Includes participants residing in area. \*\*\* Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2002

**Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/>**

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